

S-E-C-R-E-T

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Illumination

4. The airfield has an independent searchlight unit equipped with four 2,200-millimeter searchlights mounted on three-axled trucks. The searchlights provide directional lights and illuminate the runway. Yellow and red lights are built into the sides of the runway. Red neon lights are mounted around the edge of the field and on surrounding high points.

Antiaircraft Gun Emplacements

5. There are no permanent gun emplacements on the field. Occasionally anti-aircraft units do some excavation work along the west flank of the field, but the excavations are always covered up again upon termination of the exercise.

Buildings

6. Four hangars are located in the southern half of the field, near the west flank. Each measures 80 x 35 m., is built of concrete and brick, and has folding sheet-metal doors.
7. Some 100m. north of the last hangar, along the west flank of the field, a two-story building, 60 x 20 m., houses the airfield headquarters. A tower-like structure with a flat roof protrudes from it, facing the center of the field. The tower is some 20 m. taller than the building and has windows around the entire top. An independent steel stepladder leads to the tower from the outside of the building.

8. The barracks are located in the southwest corner of the field in such a manner that they protrude 300 m. in either direction, both along the west flank and the south flank of the field. The barracks include:

2 two-story structures 50 x 20 m.
 12 one-story structures 50 x 20 m.
 2 concrete shop structures 80 x 30 m.
 2 rows of garages
 8 one-story warehouse structures

The barracks yard has a wooden tower 12 m. high and a steel jump tower 60 m. high. There is also a swimming pool and a sports field.

9. The central fuel depot is located along the southern flank of the field, some 200 m. east of the southwest corner (Item 12 of sketch). The depot consists of three railroad tank cars which have been dismounted from their undercarriages and buried in the ground. In addition, each of two hangars has a fuel tank in front of it, also buried in the ground. However, aircraft take on their fuel from tank trucks which constantly travel to the town to replenish their supplies, and very seldom does an aircraft take on fuel from the storage tanks on the airfield. Six corrugated iron buildings (Item 13 of sketch) are located in the northwest corner of the barracks compound (Item 6 of sketch). No further details regarding these buildings are available. Ammunition may possibly be kept there.

Radar, Radio, and Meteorological Station

10. the radar station is located about 450 m. west of the center of the western flank of the field, some 450 m. east of the Rabice Brook (Item 10 of sketch). The general area is fenced in and strictly guarded because it is a military exercise area. Even personnel working on the airfield are denied access to this area. A steel scaffolding 7 meters high was observed from a distance. At the top of this scaffolding, a steel, mattress-like mesh structure is mounted. Details could not be ascertained and contact with personnel servicing this installation has not yet been established.

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11. Two radio antennae were observed on the field:

- a. A spherical antenna on top of the control tower roof (Item 5 of sketch). The sphere measures about 1.5 meters in diameter.
- b. A second antenna is located west of the barracks compound (Item 9 of sketch)

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and consists of two steel antenna masts 35 m. high, placed about 35 m. apart and connected by three wires. No further details are available regarding the radio station itself.

12. The meteorological station (Item 11 of sketch) is located 300 m. northeast of the northern flank of the field, in a bend of the ~~Plomnice~~ River, some 450 m. northwest of the eastern corner of the field.

Garrison

13. The airfield houses the following units:

- a. A parachute corps command, No. 103, Field Post Office consisting of the following:

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- (1) Headquarters company.
- (2) Signal company (radar, radio, telephone linesmen).
- (3) Paratrooper sapper company.
- (4) Paratrooper antiaircraft machine gun company, equipped with nine 12.7 millimeter machine guns.
- (5) Paratrooper antitank gun battery, equipped with six 7.62 centimeter antitank guns. Rumor among the soldiers has it that in 1954 they are to be equipped with recoilless weapons.
- (6) Reserve and supply section, equipped with cargo gliders.
- (7) Medical section.

- b. A parachute regiment, Field Post Office consisting of:

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- (1) Headquarters company.
- (2) Signal company (radio and telephone linesmen).
- (3) Engineer company.
- (4) Reserve and supply company.
- (5) Medical unit.
- (6) Two paratrooper battalions.
- (7) One support battalion.

Each parachute unit consists of three companies; each company has three platoons; each platoon has three squads. Squads are equipped with light machine guns, grenade launchers, grenade rifles, and bazookas. Type 1952-M carbines are used by the men. The remainder of the soldiers are equipped with machine pistols and each squad commander has a rifle with a telescopic sight. The support battalion has one mortar company, one machine gun company, and one antitank company.

- c. A transportation regiment consisting of such essential units as signal, workshop, antiaircraft gun companies, as well as three full transportation companies. One of the transportation companies is equipped with nine IL-12A aircraft; the others each have six IL-18 aircraft at their disposal. (The IL-18 is a four-engined transport capable of carrying 60 men; wing span, 30 m.; length, 25 m.; overslung wings and underslung engines.)
- d. An aircraft mechanics battalion consisting of 200 men; from time to time there have been as many as 400 men. These persons are civilians who are assigned to undergo a three-month course with the battalion. They wear overalls and caps but no uniform. Most of these men are between the ages of 21 and 25.
- e. An aircraft service battalion consisting of four companies as follows: signal, guard, workshops, and transportation.

Activity

14. The paratroopers exercise by doing two jumps per week in the summer from the jump tower and from aircraft. Aircraft of the transportation unit stationed on the field are used for this purpose. Practice jumps also take place in the vicinity of the airfield and are combined with marching practice. The paratroopers are forced to undergo the most rigorous physical training every day. The transportation regiment does a great deal of flying and the exercises

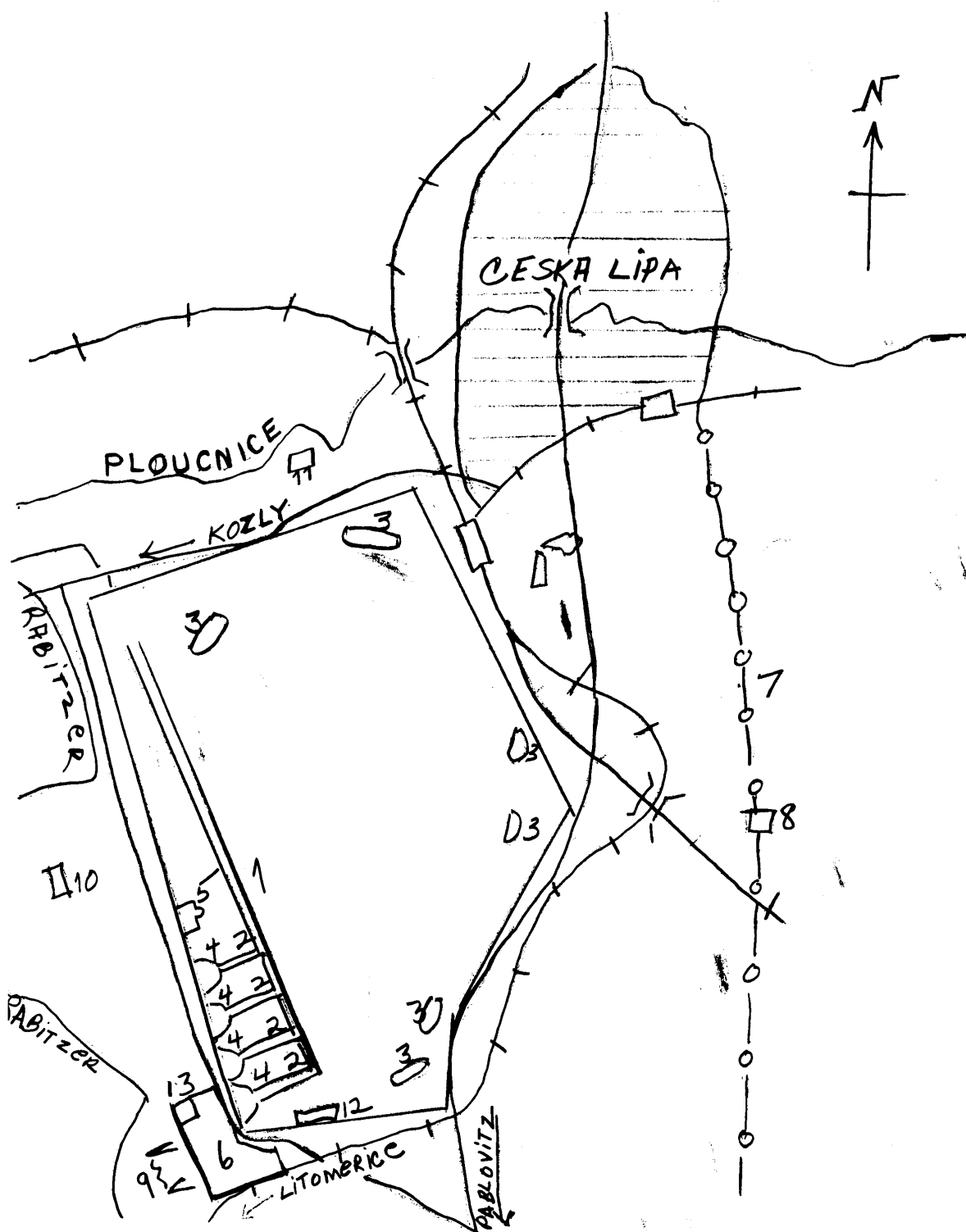
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always last several hours.

Legend to Sketch of Ceska Lipa Airfield

1. Concrete runway
2. Taxi strips, rolled; connect hangars with runway
3. Asphalt aircraft dispersal areas
4. Hangars
5. Airfield headquarters building with control tower
6. Barracks compound
7. Overhead electric power cables
8. Cable branch-off toward field
9. Radio masts
10. Radar station
11. Meteorological station
12. Central fuel depot
13. Ammunition warehouse.

 Comment: The airfield was a sports field prior to World War II and was rebuilt in 1952. Houses along the Ceska Lipa road were demolished, with exception of a few which are now used for storage space by the Czechoslovak Air Force. A dam was built on the eastern shore of the Rabice Brook, between the highway and the stone quarry.

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